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FREE

Biking the Hill



Avid bicyclist Joe Ehrlich finds the flats of his home neighborhood downtown boring, so he actively seeks out more challenging terrain. A frequent pedaller of the Hill, here he is at the crest of 22nd at Carolina on a recent Saturday. *Abigail Johnston photo*

Keep Your Eye on the Scenery, and the Hills Melt Away

By Fran Taylor

Just as water will find the easiest way down a hill, so a bicyclist will find the easiest way up. Noncyclists may assume that thighs of steel and the lungs of an opera diva are necessary to conquer Potrero Hill on a bike. Not so, say veteran Hill-dwelling cyclists.

Several people responded to a notice in the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition's weekly newsletter asking for tips and stories about cycling on Potrero. They basically agreed that it's easier than it looks if you follow a few simple rules:

- Savor the view.
- Follow the topography.
- Don't be afraid to walk uphill.
- Go with your inner daredevil downhill.

Thomas Goetz, articles editor for *Wired* magazine, lives at the very top of the Hill at Carolina and 22nd. He's learned to avoid the straightforward approach from downtown.

"While I've done my share of going straight up Kansas or De Haro or Rhode Island, the 18 percent grades on those streets can be killers," Goetz said. "Far better is to start up Kansas, take a right on Mariposa, then a left on Vermont. The grade on Vermont is much kinder — closer to 10 percent — and though it means two extra blocks distance, it's possible to climb the hill that way without breaking a sweat."

Jackie Link has lived on the Hill since 1965 and has traveled by bike home to Mississippi and 20th since 1982. She distributes the *Tube Times* and volunteers in the office for the bike coalition.

"Connecticut is the best route up to 20th for the southeast side of the Hill. It's not the steepest slope but not the easiest, either," she said. "The trick to riding on the Hill is to have really low gears. That or be really young!"

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My Brush with a Car Thief: Crime in Community Creates Concern

By John Borg

It was a late Friday afternoon last month, after a particularly ugly week at my office on Illinois Street. Looking forward to the sunny Father's Day weekend ahead, I pounded out one final client e-mail before closing up shop and flying out the door to catch a friend's art opening across town.

I'm not sure who was more surprised at what happened next — me, or the twenty-something thug I found sitting in the driver's seat of my 2001 Acura sedan.

In broad daylight and on a busy stretch of the block, this bold young man had somehow managed to disable the alarm system and slip into my car as if it were his own. It was only a matter of "luck" that I happened to catch him there, calmly fiddling with my ignition in a well-schooled attempt to steal my car.

I instinctively moved towards the driver's side door and pulled out my cell phone to call for help. He kicked open the door, jumped out, and nailed me with a forearm to the neck. Realizing that I was getting a little too involved — and relieved that I hadn't been poked by anything sharper than an elbow — I stepped aside like a matador dodging a bull.

He jogged across the street, climbed onto a beat-up bicycle he had ditched between two abandoned port buildings, and pedaled towards me with a menacing look and a farewell taunt: "Go ahead and call the police, mother——. I didn't do nothin'." Within seconds he had disappeared around the corner and out of sight.

I hoped that my fast phone work might lead to a quick police response. Unfortunately, by dialing "911" on a cell phone, I reached a highway patrol recording rather than San Francisco Police dispatch. This slowed response. I drove the back streets trying to establish where the bad guy was headed, but he was long gone. Police cruisers had no luck, either.

Having lived on the edgy outskirts of

the neighborhood for more than 15 years, it was not the first time I'd been hassled by crime. For years I was routinely threatened by a mentally unstable nomadic "neighbor" who liked to crash across the street, and I was once jumped at my doorstep by a wasted street drunk. But mostly it's been broken car windows, petty theft, graffiti and vandalism.

According to the buzz in the community, however, I thought my recent close encounter with a car thief might be part of a rising crime wave. The e-mail updates my wife receives periodically from the Potrero Hill Parents Association have been dominated lately by news of local lawlessness. A community blog I read, Potrerohillsf.com, has featured numerous reports of robberies, theft and violence. I get police reports from the Dogpatch Neighborhood Association, and crime is a big topic at community meetings.

One particularly disturbing crime took place on June 3, just below the Potrero Recreation Center on Arkansas Street. Two young men assaulted an older couple as they strolled with their grandson to a music class. Another attempted assault took place nearby a few weeks earlier — this time the intended victim was a mother with her baby. According to police, there have been at least five robberies on the Hill between mid-April and mid-June. A gun was used in two of the cases, and a knife was used in two others.

Bayview Station Captain Rick Bruce, who oversees police operations on Potrero Hill, says that despite growing concern stemming from these types of high-profile incidents, criminal activity in the neighborhood does not appear to have risen. Crime rates do tend to be cyclical, and sometimes a few individuals can create a lot of havoc. A handful of particularly nasty events concentrated in the same area, and the community's ability to share information quickly, may make the prob-

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EDITORIALS

Bush-League Bushwah
Social Security

It's finally happened: folks are going on record to let the world know how they feel about their president: "Thumbs down!"

According to a recent poll of 803 rural voters who voted for Bush over Kerry in the last presidential election by a 57-37 margin have now stated disappointment. In a June 23 poll 52 percent of these voters opposed Bush on the issue of privatizing Social Security.

Senator Max Baucus, D-Montana, a ranking member of the Senate Finance Committee, said that the "polling results confirm what many of us have known: rural Americans are against the plan to privatize Social Security. And, we should not cut Social Security benefits or enact a plan that would add trillions to our national debt."

Adding his voice to the issue was Rep. Bob Etheridge, D-North Carolina, Co-Chair of the House Democrats rural Working Group and a part-time farmer: "The president's plan to privatize Social Security is out of step with the values of Main Street. Instead of standing up for our rural communities, the president's Social Security plan jeopardizes the most important safety net in rural areas for retirees, widows and children, and the disabled." This is but a sampling of opinions amongst elected representatives in Washington.

"From East to West and North to South, from the big cities to the small towns and farms," Etheridge continued, "from urban to rural and from red state to blue – Americans of all stripes, shapes and sizes are opposed to the president's plan to slash benefits and privatize Social Security. The very base which supported the president in the last election and from which he has claimed to derive a so-called 'mandate' is overwhelmingly opposed to his risky and expensive plan to privatize Social Security. And, if it ain't going over in rural America it sure ain't going over anywhere else."

The War in Iraq

More than 1700 American soldiers have been killed since Bush declared war in Iraq, most of them in their 20s. We don't hear too much about the injured, except that the number is in the thousands.

Nor do we hear about the potential cost to those Americans with injuries who are liable to be permanently disabled, and with lifetime medical and rehabilitation needs. Included in the number of injured are those who may need psychological help after they are discharged from the service.

And, lest we forget, the numbers of Iraqi civilians and solders who have been killed or maimed, who will need the same types of medical care.

Many of us remember the scandalous way in which GIs were treated after the Vietnam war ended. A high number of those soldiers are living on the streets of our cities....

Congratulations

Former Potreto Hill residents were awarded special recognition recently, and tho' they no longer reside in our community, we are proud to remember them and proud of their continued accomplishments.

Actor Bill Irwin won Broadway's distinctive Tony award for his role in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*, by Edward Albee.

And photographer Deanne Fitzmaurice was the winner of a Pulitzer Ptize for her series of photos in the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

Misbehaving Trees to
be Replaced at Nabe

By Joe Boss

At a Department of Public Works public hearing at City Hall on Monday June 27, Administrative Law Judge Olga Ryerson granted permission for the replacement of the *Ficus nitida* trees at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House. While everyone would agree that the mature trees are great to look at, the robust root growth proved to be there downfall.

"Several years ago, the Nabe replaced the sidewalks and trimmed the roots," according to Executive Director Edward Hatter. "We serve hundreds of people from 5 to 95 yeats of age, and the trip hazard continues to worsen. Additionally, the roots have broken our sewer lines, causing our newly refinished gym floor to be destroyed. Fortunately, we have been successful in lining up a contractor (RAM Construction) who is donating the labor to remove and replace the sidewalk, and a generous donation of the concrete from Bode Gravel and Cement. Those contri-

butions are worth about \$10,000. Without replacing the trees, we would be facing the same problem in just a few years."

The Neighborhood House is soliciting donations for the six 36" box specimen trees, which cost about \$500.00 each. Plan and permit fees will add another \$1,000 to the total bill. The Nabe will have a public meeting to help its Board decide the type of tree to use for the replacement.

Doug Wildman, Program Director for the Friends of The Urban Forest, agreed that while their mission is to create a greener San Francisco, these trees have literally outgrown their usefulness, and should be replaced.

Carla Short, the city's urban forester, also assisted in the process. Jane Martin of plantsf is working with the Nabe on designing the project to include environmentally friendly permeable sidewalks, which help reduce storm warer runoff into the city's sewer system. Call Edward Hatter at 415-826-8080 if you can help.

Open Houses Inform Locals
About Peaker Plant Project

The project team working on the city's proposed Electric Reliability Project gave the members of the Bayview-Hunters Point and Potrero Hill-Dogpatch neighborhoods the opportunity to take a closer look at these projects and ask questions "up close and personal" about various aspects of them. Community Open Houses took place on Monday, June 20th at the Southeast Community Facility and on Tuesday June 21 at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House. The city project technical and management team was available to members of the community for three hours.

The Electric Reliability Project is a significant step in the city's efforts to achieve local control over air quality and electric reliability, an important aspect of the overall city-developed Electricity Resource Plan. The SFPUC presented details about the Electric Reliability Project, including the siting of four small combustion rurbines (CTs), three located adjacent to the newly proposed MUNI Metro East Facility at 25th and Illinois, and one at the San Francisco Airport. These four CTs

are now part of a California Independent System Operator (CAISO) Action Plan under which both the Hunter's Point and Potrero Power Plants would no longer be required for local electric reliability.

The Open Houses offered information stations staffed by project team members who have experience with specific areas of the project, including an overview of the CAISO Action Plan; the facility siting and details; information about licensing, environmental review and permitting; ait quality modeling, monitoring and mitigation; information about community benefits; details about the SFPUC's renewable energy program; and a chance to meet with the representative from the Mayor's Office to talk about jobs.

Many who attended stated that they found the open-house format very useful for getting the information they wanted about the project.

For more info, please contact Jim Marks, SFPUC, at 415-554-3237, or by email at jmarks@sfwater.org.

Department of Corrections

There was an error in the opinion piece headlined "UCSF: Thinking Outside the Box" that ran in the June 2005 issue of *The Potrero View*. The owner of the building at 601 Minnesota is NOT in negotiations with UCSF, and this property is not adjacent to 654 Minnesota. We apologize for the mistake and for any distress it caused the owner of this building and his tenants.



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GETTING INVOLVED

Dogpatch Neighborhood Association meets the second Tuesday of each *even-numbered* month at 7 p.m., at 50 Tennessee Street. Next meeting: August 9.

PHAMB (Potrero Hill Association of Merchants & Businesses) meets the second Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. at Goat Hill Pizza, corner of Connecticut and 18th Streets. Visit www.potrerohill.biz. Next meeting: July 12.

PHPA (Potrero Hill Parents' Association) meets on the first Friday of the month in the playground behind the Potrero Hill Recreation Center at Madera and Arkansas streets at 12 noon. Next two meetings: July 1 and August 5.

Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association meets the last Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. (social time starting at 6:30 p.m.) in the wheelchair-accessible Game Room of the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro Street. For more information visit www.potreroboosters.org or call President Tony Kelly at 341-8040 or e-mail him at president@potreroboosters.org. Next meeting: July 26.

Potrero Hill Garden Club usually meets the last Sunday of the month at 11 a.m. for a potluck lunch in a local home or garden. Informal discussion will be held on a variety of subjects relating to organic, edible, or ornamental gardening appropriate for Potrero Hill's particular mini-climate. Call 648-6740 for details. Next meeting: July 31.

ROSES (Residents of the Southeast Sector) meets the first Thursday of each month with members of the S.F. Police Dept. to discuss issues of public concern. The Forum takes place at 7 p.m. in the community facility downstairs at 1800 Oakdale at Phelps. Refreshments served after the meeting. Next two meetings: July 7 and August 4.

SFGH Rebuild Updates, neighborhood meetings hosted by S.F. General Hospital every second Wednesday, 6-8 p.m., 2789 25th Street, Rooms 2001-2003. San Francisco must rebuild its only safety net hospital and trauma center in order to meet highest seismic safety mandates. Call 206-5784 for more info. Next meeting: July 13.

Starr King Openspace Board of Directors meets the third Tuesday of each *odd-numbered* month at 7 p.m., Potrero Branch Library, 1616 20th Street. Next meeting: July 21. Volunteer for the Park work days continue *every* month on the third Saturday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Next work day: July 16 at the park, Carolina Street, south of 23rd. Mail: Starr King Park, P.O. Box 880293, S.F., CA 94188-0293. Call 810-4900 for more information.

Next Hill Blood Drive July 9

By Diane Bassett

The quarterly Potrero Hill Blood Drive held in April was a huge success, with sufficient donations to save the lives of 42 people!

The next blood drive will be Saturday, July 9 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the same location — Saint Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church on the corner of De Haro and Mariposa streets. You can get more details at www.saintgregorys.org/giveblood (the church office can also be called at 415-255-8100). Drop-ins are welcome, and appointments are appreciated.

Donor Dennis Murray confessed to being very needle-phobic. "The staff from the blood center are experts at this. I'm usually scared to death of this kind of thing and I have to say, it didn't hurt at all." So, being needle-phobic, what convinced Dennis to donate? "I was impressed by how much they can do with the small bit of blood I donate. The idea that my just sitting here for 15 minutes could literally save multiple lives was the clincher. I just couldn't pass this up."

Seventeen year old David Krebs (a local hill resident) rolled up his sleeve and donated, too. "My mom was coming down to donate, so I figured I would, too."

I bring my iPod and listen to music and it's no big deal."

Leesy Taggart has been donating since she was 18 (and she declines to give her age today!). "I've donated over 2 gallons in my lifetime." Leesy has personally donated enough blood to save over 100 different people. She's definitely a hero!

Hill resident (and church Rector) Donald Schell explained the donor gift being given at July's drive. "Donors will get a two-for-one coupon for Great America, and since one ticket costs \$40, it's a great way to say thank you. People don't come to donate for the gift, but they love it when they get it!"

The Potrero Hill Blood Drive takes place once per quarter, and provides a convenient way for local residents to donate blood and be a hero. Interestingly, adults have 20 cups of blood in their bodies, whereas newborn babies only have one. Every three seconds, someone is in need of someone else's donated blood. Despite our biotech advances, blood cannot be manufactured, it must be donated. You can safely donate blood every 51 days.

The Potrero Hill Blood Drives are a joint project of the Blood Centers of the Pacific and Saint Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church.

Environmental Justice for San Francisco

Sophie Maxwell
Supervisor, District 10

While each of our neighborhoods in Southeast San Francisco may have a different, unique character, there are issues that bind us together. One of those issues is environmental justice, the on-going struggle to alleviate the disproportionate environmental and health impacts borne by our residents.

Our children are more likely to go to San Francisco General Hospital with an asthma attack. Our residents are more likely to be diagnosed with cancer. We have less access to parks and healthy foods. The list goes on.

This is environmental injustice — and it is not a recent phenomenon in the San Francisco story. From the beginnings of its zoning history, San Francisco's industrial land has been concentrated in sections of the city with a high percentage of people of color and low-income residents. The areas South of Market featured foundries, machine shops, and boiler works. Warehouses and shipyards lined the wharves, while towards Potrero and Bayview were stockyards and warehouses. While the uses in these areas have changed over time, the City's limitation of industrially zoned land to the southeast neighborhoods has not.

In addition, the city's only two freeways, I-101 and I-280, run through our neighborhoods, contributing a significant amount of air and noise pollution. Furthermore, the city's utilities that serve all San Francisco residents disproportionately impact communities of color and low-income neighborhoods. The Hunters



Supervisor Sophie Maxwell

Point and Potrero power plants, among the oldest in California, emitted over 80 tons of particulate matter in 2000, as well as substantial amounts of other pollutants. In addition, 80 percent of the city's sewage is treated at the Southeast Water Pollution Control Plant in Bayview. In 1970, the Plant handled just 20 percent of the city's sewage.

With this history — and on-going proposals to further concentrate land uses with environmental and health impacts in the southeast section of the city — I am preparing legislation to establish an environmental justice policy for San Francisco.

Environmental justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national

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It's STILL the Revenue, Governor

By Mark Leno
Assemblyman, 13th District

This past month, in time to meet the Constitutional deadline of passing our state budget, Democrats proposed a modified version of Governor Schwarzenegger's May revision of his January budget. In a significant offer of compromise, Assembly Democrats accepted 98 percent of the governor's proposal. The changes made refused some cuts to health and human services such as reducing the wages for In Home Support Service workers to the minimum wage of \$6.25 per hour. Additionally, our budget did not accept nearly one billion dollars in uncertain revenue projections and did not pass to local school districts the \$500 million contribution to our teachers' pension plan. After lengthy debate, the budget bill was defeated on a party line vote. Because California is one of only three states requiring a 2/3 vote to pass our budget, the minority party controls the final outcome. One third of the legislature can veto the desire of two thirds of its members.

Assembly Democrats then proposed a vote on the restoration of the Reagan-Wilson upper tax brackets for the state personal income tax. Created by Governor Reagan in the 1970s and restored by Governor Wilson in 1991, these added tax revenues would benefit the state approximately \$2.5 billion annually. The additional cost to a single tax payer earning

\$150,000 would be \$94. Again, the measure was defeated by a party line vote.

Republicans' refusal to put increased revenue options on the table undermine our ability to serve the needs of Californians who are depending on us to fix our roads, educate our kids and care for the elderly and sick. If the Governor were truly serious about paying down the state's budget deficit, he could reinstate tax resources the state had in place in the 1990s, and the budget deficit would evaporate. Instead, the Governor is trying to cover up his lack of revenue by more borrowing.



Assemblyman Mark Leno

Fortunately, the cuts proposed in the May Revision aren't as deep as those proposed in January. However, it is important to know why. The cuts aren't as severe because they are offset by a flow of increased revenue from last year. The

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The Potrero Hill Association of Merchants and Businesses (PHAMB) Welcomes New Members:

Allpointe Insurance
Bath & Beyond
Big Think Studios
Cee Architects
Cor-O-Van
Craft Gym
Dekko

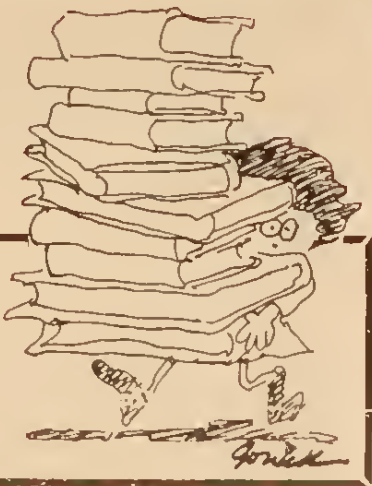
Four Star Video
f troop design
The Lardie Co.
The Potrero Hill
Neighborhood House
The Voice Studio
World Chiropractic

For more information about PHAMB, please visit our website at www.potrerohill.biz

LIBRARY NEWS

POTRERO BRANCH
1616 20th St. / 355-2822

Closed Sunday and Monday
Tuesday: 10 am - 8 pm
Wednesday: 12 noon - 8 pm
Thursday: 10 am - 6 pm
Friday: 1 pm - 6 pm
Saturday: 1 pm - 6 pm



BRANCH RENOVATION UPDATE

The proposed design for the renovated two-floor Potrero Branch Library was reviewed last month by a panel of independent architects and urban planners before the Library Commission. "Thank you!" to those of you who turned out for the meeting to listen and speak to the commissioners. Many constructive comments were made about the layout and overall use of space, and the design now goes back to the architects for reconsideration. The architects will respond to the commission at a future date. Stay tuned to this column for updates. For further information, please contact the Branch Library Improvement Program at 415-557-4354.

SPEAKING OF DESIGN

The San Francisco Arts Commission is seeking Potrero Hill residents interested in serving on the Potrero Branch Community Artist Selection Panel, which will meet three times over a four or five month period to select an artist to create an artwork to be incorporated into the renovated Potrero Branch Library. Three community representatives will be elected to serve on the panel by Potrero residents on September 14 at the Potrero Branch Library.

Residents interested in applying to participate on this panel must complete an application form, which is available at the Potrero Branch Library or on the Arts Commission website at www.sfartscommission.org/pubart/. Completed applications must be submitted to the Arts Commission offices no later than Friday, September 2. Only those individuals who have submitted a completed application form by this deadline will be eligible.

The election to select the three community representatives for the Potrero Branch Community Artist Selection Panel will be held at the Potrero Branch Library on September 14 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. when voting ballots will be available for completion. All adult Potrero residents are eligible to vote.

For additional information about the Potrero Branch artist selection process, please call Judy Moran, Art Commission Public Art Project Manager, at 415-252-2586.

AUTHORS' NIGHT AT THE POTRERO LIBRARY

Please come! Local authors Pamela Holm (*The Night Garden*) and Michelle Richmond (*Dream of the Blue Room*) will read from their latest novels on Wednesday, July 13 at 6:30 p.m. Adults and teens are welcome. For further information about this program or other programs in this

monthly series of author readings, contact librarian Lia Hillman at 415-355-2856.

SUMMER READING FOR TEENS AND CHILDREN

Don't miss out: Teen Summer Read is up and running, now through July 23. Youths (ages 13 through 18) who sign up and participate receive prizes. And for children up through age 13, there's this year's "Dragons, Dreams, and Daring Deeds" Summer Reading Club, which runs through August 6. Sign up, read, and receive prizes! Preschool-age children also can participate by having someone read to them. Come to the library for more details.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS IN JULY

In addition to the Summer Reading Club, we have a variety of programs for children throughout the summer, thanks to funding from the Friends of the Library:

Thursday, July 7 at 4:30 p.m. Magicians Al Fodor and Steve Bosque return to the library with "Big Show Magic." For children of all ages.

Tuesday, July 12 at 7 p.m. "Flute Sweets and Tickletoons," featuring music and storytheatre. For children ages 4 and up.

Thursday, July 21 at 10:30 a.m. Music and movement with Gayle Schmitt. For children of all ages.

Saturday, July 30 at 4 p.m. Come and make a mermaid or merman! Join us in welcoming local author Lynn Hazen for this story-and-craft program. Space limited to 30 children; please sign up in advance with librarian. For children ages 6 and older.

And here is a list of our weekly programs:

Infant/toddler lapsit, featuring stories, songs, and rhymes on Thursdays, July 7, 14 and 28 at 10:30 a.m. For children newborn through age 3.

Evening storytime on Tuesdays, July 5 and 26 at 7 p.m. For ages 3 and older.

Evening films on Tuesday, July 19 at 7 p.m.: *Pet Show*, *The Mole and the Rocket*, and *Red Ball Express*. For ages 3 and older.

Afternoon films on Wednesday, July 27 at p.m. and 4 p.m.: *The Scrambled States of America*, *When Knights Were Bold*, *Yo! Yes?*, and *The Cat Came Back*. For ages 5 and older.

Please note: All library programs are free. Meeting room is not accessible by elevator. For group reservations, please call in advance.

Jensa Woo
Potrero Branch Library Manager

TEN YEARS AGO

In The View

MEETING CONSIDERS HILL PERMIT PARKING

The Department of Parking and Traffic has delineated an area around San Francisco General Hospital for possible inclusion in the Residential Permit Parking program and presented its proposal to a public meeting at Carr Auditorium in SFGH. Under the program, streets are posted with time limit signs and only residents on those streets are exempted from parking restrictions upon purchase of a \$21 annual permit. Restrictions will be in effect, effective after completion of the parking garage in 1996, from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

ANTI-VIOLENCE FUND HELPS EDUCATION

The Family Violence Prevention Fund, located on Rhode Island Street at the base of the Hill, is promoting a nationwide public education campaign to educate Americans about the widespread incidence of domestic violence, and to promote prevention and intervention. The Fund is now a national agency with an operating budget of \$1.7 million a year. The Fund created a San Francisco Family Violence project, which provides a full range of services to more than 2400 battered women each year. It also provides specialized services and training to law enforcement officials, health care professionals, judges and service providers.

NEW MENTAL HEALTH FACILITY

Neighbors of SFGH got guided tours of its new Mental Health Rehabilitation Facility located on Potrero Avenue near 22nd Street. The \$27 million facility for non-violent, chronically mentally ill will house 185 S.F. patients. Fifteen of them adolescents, who have up to now had to be housed in surrounding counties at S.F. taxpayers' expense. A staff of 205 will attend the patients in the 90,000-square-foot facility.

NABE FUNDRAISING EVENTS

The Potrero Hill Neighborhood House will benefit from July fundraisers sponsored by two neighborhood establishments. The Connecticut Yankee at 300 Connecticut Street will offer a special Fourth of July barbecue. The Samuel Adams Brewery is co-sponsoring the event, and the restaurant management and employees will donate their services. The second fundraiser, a carwash, is sponsored by World Gym/ Showplace Square, on July 15.

PORT SEEKS NEW TENANTS FOR MISSION ROCK RESORT

The S.F. Port commission, owner of the property on which the restaurant, bar and marina sit, has moved to oust the current owners of the resort, Norma Wahl and her daughter and co-manager Deborah Marshall, who have operated the Mission Rock Resort since 1975. The Port claims that the precarious financial situation of the resort requires a new operator to come in. The Commission is issuing a Request for Proposals, which will open the bidding for new ownership. Wahl and Marshall are trying to find investment partners to help bail them out.

CHINA BASIN FIRE LEVELS RECYCLING PLANT

Within days after a noxious June 7 fire at Westbay Recycling across from Pier 28, it was business as usual — recycling paper, cardboard and plastic products, much of it trucked in during the week and on Sunday mornings by long lines of people pushing grocery carts full of bottles, cans, newspapers, and cartons. The fire began in bales of plastic materials and spread to unbaled paper and cardboard. Because of high winds and low water pressure, the fire department was unable to halt the spread of the blaze, and fireboats

(Continued on Page 5)

BEFORE
THE REMOTE
CONTROL



THERE WAS SOMETHING CALLED A BOOK.

If you're tired of so-called reality TV, come visit a different world: Christopher's, your corner bookstore. At Christopher's we take pride in selecting books our neighbors will enjoy. We stock everything from children's books to the latest bestsellers, from travel books to unique published oddities. So when you're ready to put down the remote, stop in and look around. We may not eat live bugs, but we can recommend a great escape from television.

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THE VIEW AT THE LIBRARY

If you are searching for a story that ran in *The Potrero View* a long time ago, take a look at the bound volumes at the Potrero Branch Library which contain every issue from the very first one in 1970 through 2000. Also at the library are unbound back issues from 2001 to the present. All these materials are available for use at the library.



The Jackson Rec Center's championship-winning youth baseball team, the Jackson Pirates. Left to right, front row: Erick Wilson, Kyani Harris, Donte Cullins, Giovanni Gutierrez, Javelle Beasley; middle row: Junior Afoa, Chris Anguiano, Young Ene, Chris Pulusian, Joe Galang; back row: Coach Casey Ress, Head Coach Bob Boileau, Will Colon. Not pictured: Coach Ernesto Banayos, Caprice Mitchell, Harrison Engle, Donovan Boileau.

Photo courtesy of Bob Boileau

Hill Youth Baseball Team Wins Citywide Championship

The youth baseball team from Potrero Hill's Jackson Recreation Center, called the Jackson Pirates, defeated St. Cecilia to win the citywide San Francisco Youth Baseball Championship on June 11.

The team of middle school seventh and sixth graders was formed last summer by longtime Potrero Hill resident Bob Boileau. "I couldn't be happier that our first-time entry into the League resulted in a championship. We had a little luck, and these players did a great job," said Boileau. I hope this win and Herman Pratt's Bayview-Hunters Point team's championship win in their division proves that parents don't have to take their kids across town to play on quality youth baseball teams."

After a 7-3 record in spring regular season play, the Jackson Pirates were trailing St. Cecilia's 3-1 when they came to bat in the last half of the last inning. Erik Wilson beat out an infield hit for a single and then stole second. Joe Galang, who had pitched three scoreless innings, came up and hit a solid single that moved Wilson to third base. Galang then stole second. Catcher Young Ene smashed a double to the outfield that scored both Wilson and Galang. William Colon stepped up to the plate and hit a hard line drive into the outfield. While Colon was heading for second base, Ene came home, making the score 4-3 and winning the game and the Championship.

"Our entire lineup played good offen-

sive and defensive baseball," Boileau stated. "Starting pitchers Javelle Beasley and pitcher/first baseman Joe Galang pitched well."

"Chris Pulusian (a pitcher who also plays left field) and Chris Anguiano (a third baseman as well as a pitcher), never got to pitch because they were held in reserve in case the game went into extra innings again. Right fielder Kyanni Harris made a key catch of a fly ball, and second baseman Giovanni Gutierrez made an important stop on a hard ground ball to get a force-out at second to stop rallies by St. Cecilia. Designated hitters Junior Afoa and Donte Cullins got hits during the game to help us get our first run," Coach Boileau said.

"Of course without coaches Ernesto Banayos and Casey Ress, this season would not have been possible, and I really want to thank the businesses, individuals, and unions who did and will donate to keep this team alive," he added.

Even though the city doesn't have a real baseball program during the summer months, the Jackson Pirates will play invited opponents on Saturdays and on either Tuesdays or Wednesdays from July 9 through August 15.

If any reader has a baseball-playing son or daughter who wants to play this summer on the Pirates' team, and/or is willing to support/help the team, call Bob Boileau at 415-826-6359 or e-mail boileau@earthlink.net.

This War in Iraq Is a Grotesque Mistake; It Is Not Making America Safer

By Nancy Pelosi
House Democratic Leader

In mid June, I introduced an amendment to the defense appropriations bill that would require the President to submit a report to Congress detailing a strategy for success in Iraq that would allow U.S. troops to come home. On Monday, for the second time in less than a week, Republicans would not allow a vote on my amendment.

The defense appropriations bill contains another \$45 billion for the war in Iraq that has already consumed nearly \$200 billion, ended the lives of over 1,700 of our troops and thousands more Iraqis, and changed forever the lives of the tens of thousands more who have been wounded.



Representative Nancy Pelosi

Our troops were sent into war without intelligence about what they were going to confront, without adequate equipment to protect them, and without a plan for what would happen after the fall of Baghdad.

I have visited with soldiers in Iraq, many of whom are on their second tour of duty there. I conveyed to those brave soldiers how grateful the American people are for their valor, their patriotism, and the sacrifice they are willing to make for our country. They have performed their duties with great courage and skill and we are deeply in their debt.

Disagreement with the policies that sent our troops to Iraq, and keeps them in danger today, in no way diminishes the

respect and admiration we have for them. Sadly, the level of their sacrifice has never been matched by the level of the Administration's planning, and now the American people agree this war is not making America safer.

Each passing day confirms what I have said before: This war in Iraq is a grotesque mistake; it is not making America safer, and the American people know it.

The war in Iraq is a war of choice, a pre-emptive war. A war of choice carries an increased responsibility to have a solid plan for success. President Bush was not prepared with such a plan.

Because of the lack of planning, reconstruction is taking much longer, is much more costly, and is made almost impossible because of the security situation. Security won't be improved until more responsibility for it can be assumed by Iraqis, allowing vital social services to be provided and our troops to come home.

Congress must insist that the President explain how his Administration will determine when Iraqis can be responsible for Iraq's security, and how Iraq's economic and political stability will be assessed. That is what my amendment would do.

The President and his Administration have failed to plan adequately for the conduct of the war to date, making it all the more imperative that Congress ensure that planning be done competently for bringing our troops home. If our troops are to leave when the mission has succeeded, we need to know now how success is to be defined.

Our commitment in Iraq cannot be open-ended; Congress should have insisted long ago that the limits on that commitment be publicly shared and well understood. Republicans apparently prefer to keep their heads in the sand, and continue to provide money for the Iraq war with no questions asked.

Congress did not discharge its responsibility to oversee Iraq policies at the start of the war, and it has not done so since. The American people deserve better. Our troops serving in harm's way are owed more by those who sent them there than poor planning. We must do everything in our power to honor our obligation to our troops. Only then will we be fulfilling our responsibility.

Contact Nancy Pelosi's S.F. District Office at 415-556-4862 or email her directly at sf.nancy@mail.house.gov

TEN YEARS AGO IN THE VIEW

(Continued from Page 4)

were called in to help squelch the fire. A baling machine, three cargo containers and a loading dock were severely damaged, the indicator for the truck scales was ruined, and a forklift was destroyed. The fire department was expected to attribute the blaze to spontaneous combustion of organic matter inside some of the plastic bottles.

AND TWENTY YEARS AGO . . . Hill resident Mauri Schwartz described her experience as a passenger on TWA flight

847 which was hijacked on a flight from Athens to Rome . . . Meetings were held involving Potrero Hill Middle School faculty and parents in response to complaints about disciplinary problems, truancy, graffiti, and bad behavior by students before and after school . . . Third annual "Scamper" drew more than 170 participants . . . Father Peter Sammon, pastor of St. Teresa's Church, was to be honored at the annual Potrero Hill Neighborhood House benefit dinner.

— Bernie Gershater



Bayview-Hunters Point Farmers' Market

Fresh and healthy food available every Saturday through December 10, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at Galvez Street at Third, next to Bayview Plaza. For more information or free farmers' market coupons, please call S.F. Environment at 415-355-3723.

Cardiovascular Disease: #1 Killer of Women in U.S.

By Carl Hangee-Bauer

The American Heart Association is actively involved in an awareness campaign to inform women and their doctors that cardiovascular (CV) disease is the number one killer of women in the United States.

Accepted Medical View Has Changed

In the old days, the only people that doctors watched carefully for signs of CV disease were the overweight, 50-60-year-old man who smokes and has high blood pressure or high cholesterol. However, recent facts have come to our attention that have made us revise this medical bias. If we knew then what we know now, we would have thought of CV disease as a woman's disease.

Here's why. In the U.S. today, even though a woman might not develop CV disease until about 10 years later than a man, she has a 1-in-3 chance of dying from a heart attack or stroke. By comparison, a woman has a 1-in-8 chance of developing breast cancer. CV disease claims more women's lives than the next seven causes of death combined, about 500,000 a year. Eight million American women are currently living with heart disease, and 32 percent of all American women die of heart disease. In comparison, 38 percent of women and 25 percent of men will die within one year of a first-recognized heart attack, and 46 percent of female and 22 percent of male heart attack survivors will be disabled within 6 years. Clearly, heart disease is not a man's disease.

One reason for these alarming statistics is the bias noted above. Simply put, doctors don't watch women at high risk for CV disease as closely as men. Further, when women exhibit signs of a heart attack, they are not the typical "Hollywood heart attack" signs men often exhibit. You know what I mean—loosening their tie, clutching their chest or left arm, sweating and keeling over in pain. In women, the symptoms of a heart attack may more likely be shortness of breath, dizziness, lightheadedness or nausea.

Know Your Risk Factors

There is some good news here. While we still may be trying to figure out who is at greatest risk for breast cancer, we can often see CV disease coming from a mile away. Knowing your risk factors is often a useful way to predict your risk of developing CV disease. Naturopathic doctors are trained to take a deeper look at your diet and lifestyle and for signs of disease risk. The most important risk factors for CV disease include:

- Family History of CV Disease
- Smoking
- Diabetes
- High Blood Pressure
- High Cholesterol/Triglycerides
- Obesity
- High C-reactive protein, fibrinogen and other inflammatory markers.

How to Reduce Your Risk Of CV Disease

First, don't smoke! Women who smoke risk having a heart attack 19 years

earlier than nonsmoking women, and those with diabetes are 2-3 times more likely to have heart disease. If you have diabetes, do your best to manage your blood sugar effectively. High blood pressure is more common in women who take birth control pills, especially if they are obese. Practice a moderate and healthy diet containing lots of vegetables, whole grains and no trans-fats. Exercise moderately and manage your weight.

Know your risk factors and be aware of changes in them by seeing your doctor every year for examination and review. In addition to testing for total cholesterol, "good" and "bad" cholesterol, and triglycerides, ask your doctor about testing for homocysteine, C-reactive protein, fibrinogen and other inflammatory risk markers.

The results of these tests combined with recent and family medical history and physical exam, can help you accurately assess your risk of developing CV disease. Naturopathic doctors can recommend lifestyle approaches to managing these risk factors and individualize a treatment plan that may include alternatives to mainstream drug therapies such as cholesterol-lowering medications and blood pressure pills.

Carl Hangee-Bauer, ND, LAc, the founder of the SOMA Acupuncture & Natural Health Clinic on 20th Street, is a firm believer that joy resides in the heart. "Find ways to create joy and happiness in your life," he says, "and that too will keep your heart open." For more info, visit www.SOMAacupuncture.com.

THIS YEAR 500,000
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We associate heart disease with men, but it's the number one killer of American women. That's why prevention measures like exercising and a heart-healthy diet are critical. Take charge of your health and spread the word. Learn more on the Web at www.women.amhrt.org or by calling 1-800-AHA-USA1.

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Window Display. Once again, Sara, the extraordinary collector, is back. This month she is showing a fine collection of vintage cameras and photos from a "simpler" time.

Artist of the Month. Pierre Bée, born in Normandy, France, displays photographs from his travels to Hong Kong, Shanghai, Tokyo and Kyoto which focus on the beauty and purity of simple things. Reception for the artist on **Friday, July 22** at 7 p.m.

Holiday Concert. Farley's is open on **Monday, July 4**, and will feature a concert by the *Potrero Hill Friends of Old Time Music* at 2 p.m. Come sing along and tap your feet to early American classics. After dark, come by for the 18th Street Neighbors safe and sound fireworks display.

Babies and Young Kids Day. Moms, Dads and Grandparents bring the kids to Farley's for a little peoples get together. **Friday, July 8**, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free cookies and balloons.

Live Music. Jazz, with the sweet sax sounds of the Stephon Alexander Quartet. **Friday, July 15**, 7 p.m.



IMAGINE: THE MISSION, Photography Exhibition II held in honor of the 35th anniversary of *El Tecolote* newspaper, a free, biweekly newspaper producing original neighborhood news in two languages. Its archives present an historical record of Mission arts and activism. Exhibition opening and reception on **Friday, July 15**, 7-9 p.m., Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts, 2868 Mission Street. Admission, \$5. For more information call 415-821-1155.



SAINT GREGORY OF NYSSA EPISCOPAL CHURCH. 500 De Haro Street, 415-255-1552.

Concert: The Pacific Collegium presents a concert of Penitential Psalms by Melchior Franck on **Saturday, July 30** at 8 p.m. General admission, \$20, students and seniors, \$12. For more info and tickers, visit www.pacificcollegium.org.

Classes and Lectures: Icon workshop. Learn to paint a beautiful icon. **Sundays, July 10 and 24**, 1:30 p.m. Contact Betsy Porter for more information.

Volunteer Opportunities: Help save lives by donating blood. **Saturday, July 9**, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Drop-ins are welcome but appointments are helpful. Call 415-255-8100 ext.3 for more information or to register.



DOGPATCH AND POTRERO POINT TOUR. Designated as a San Francisco Historic District, the Dogpatch neighborhood has important ties to the city's past commercial industries. This tour will explore the past and present of this surprising, eclectic neighborhood in transition, from its historic working class cottages and industrial age relics to the current proliferation of ultra-modern lofts. **Sunday, July 3**, and the first Sunday of each month through October. Tour meets at 11 a.m. at the corner of 18th and Tennessee Streets, covers about 1.3 miles, completely flat, and takes about 2 hours. Tour is free, but a donation of \$5 per person to SF City Guides is suggested. For more information call 415-550-8082 or visit www.natwis@alumni.duke.edu



By Mary Wasserman

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY: All events are free and open to the public and take place at the Main Library (unless stated otherwise) 100 Larkin Street at Grove. For more information call 415-557-4277 or visit www.sfpl.org.

The Hetch Hetchy Water System: Past, Present, and Future. This exhibition of historic and contemporary photographs, documents and artifacts illustrates the early 20th century genesis of San Francisco's 167-mile water, and hydro-power system, its unfailing service to today's 2.4 million Bay Area consumers, and tomorrow's challenges, directions and opportunities. The exhibition is open the entire month of July and runs through August 18.

Our Rights as Human Beings. A 1949 photo exhibition explaining the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights. Runs the entire month of July through August 11.

Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals 1933-1945. Through reproductions of some 250 photographs and documents, this exhibition examines the rationale, means and impact of the Nazi regime's attempt to eradicate homosexuality that left thousands dead and shattered the lives of many more. This exhibit is organized and circulated by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Also on display will be rare materials from San Francisco collector Gerald Koskovich that document the work of German gay rights pioneer, Dr. Magnus Hirschfeld and the destruction of his institute and library by the Nazis. Exhibition continues throughout the entire month of July, and runs through August 18.

Signing of the United Nations Charter in San Francisco 1945. When representatives of more than 50 countries met in San Francisco to establish an international organization dedicated to preserving peace and to reaffirm faith in human rights, the result was the United Nations Charter, the rules that govern that body today. This exhibition, featuring rarely seen photographs, artifacts and documents from the collection of the San Francisco History Center, provides a view of how the United Nations Charter was created, the experience of the signers and the effect all this had on the city. Exhibit is shown throughout July.



CRISSY FIELD CENTER: 603 Mason at Halleck in the Presidio. For general information call 415-561-7690 or visit www.crisseyfield.org. For program information or to register call 415-561-7752.

The Crissy Field Mystery Trail Challenge. There's a mystery to be solved in your National Park by the bay. Grab a magnifying glass and go to the Warming Hut near the fishing pier and the Golden Gate Bridge at the western end of Crissy Field. There you will find a booklet that directs you down the Mystery Trail in search of the first clue. There are nine clues altogether, hidden along a 1 mile stretch of San Francisco's most scenic park. A special prize awaits you at the bookstore if you are able to find all nine. **Wednesdays through Sundays, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.** Recommended for families with children 5 and up. Free. Groups of 10 or more must make a reservation.

Bridge to Ridge Ride: Bicycle Tour. Experience the Golden Gate National Park on a strenuous 12 mile ride to the Marin Headlands and back. Suitable for experienced riders only. Helmets required. Meet at Officers' Club, 50 Moraga Avenue on the Main Post. **Saturday, July 23**, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Call to register.

Buffalo Soldiers. An all-ages, ranger-led, moderate 1 mile walk focusing on the contribution of African-American "Buffalo Soldiers" to our country's rich history. **Sunday, July 24**, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Meet at the Officers' Club, 50 Moraga Ave., on the Main Post. Free. Call to register.

Be A Park Hero. Adults, families and youth ages 10 and up can be part of the Presidio's natural cycle by removing invasive plants in its grasslands, dunes, and wetlands. You can help create healthy ecosystems for endangered plants and local wildlife. Meet at Crissy Field Center. Transportation to the work site will be provided. **Saturday, July 16**, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Family Outdoor Adventure: Using Your Senses at Crissy Field. Experience the sights, sounds, smells, and flavors of Crissy Field on an easy 1 mile walk. Look for crabs, taste strawberry treats and listen to legends. Smell the seashore and touch the sand as you build sand castles under the cypress trees. Bring walking shoes. **Sunday, July 17**, 1-2:30 p.m.. For families with children ages 5 and up. Free.



RANDALL MUSEUM, 199 Museum Way (off Roosevelt, above Castro and 14th streets). Museum hours are Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission free. For information call 415-554-9600 or visit www.randallmuseum.org.

Bufano Sculpture Tours. The Randall Museum has become home to eight giant sculptures by the San Francisco sculptor, Benny Bufano. Free tours of the exhibit, located in the museum's Outdoor Learning Environment area, are conducted the second and third Saturdays of the month, **July 9 and July 16**, 10:30 A.M.

Endless Energy-Power for a Small Planet is an interactive exhibition exploring renewable energy options on display through October 22. Designed for children 5-12, this innovative exhibition offers visitors a variety of hands-on activities and colorful displays providing information on how to make real choices for renewable energy.



MODERN TIMES BOOKSTORE, 888 Valencia Street, 415-282-9246, wheelchair accessible, all events are free and open to the public.

Modern Times is holding several events in July to celebrate **LaborFest**, which was established in 1994 to honor the history and culture of working people. It begins every July 5, the anniversary of the 1934 "Bloody Thursday" event, during which two workers were killed.

Saturday, July 9, 2 p.m. Maria Brooks, *Maritime Women*. Brooks has focused her extensive work on maritime workers and their history. Her latest endeavor is a video history of women maritime workers that will also include a book.



Sunday, July 10, 2 p.m. Grey Brechin, Harvey Smith and others, *WPA and California Panel*. A major research project on the history of the Works Progress Administration is underway. The WPA, which employed tens of thousands during the Depression, played an important role in California history.

Saturday, July 16, 1 p.m. Mike Alewitz, Jan Cook, Louise Gilbert, Sueson Green, and Doug Minklet, *Witchhunts, Past and Present*. Panelists will discuss the effect of past and present witchhunts on artists, examining and exploring the efforts to silence and censor political art from the McCarthy period to today. Panelists will also look at how artists use their work to advance the cause of working people everywhere.

Sunday, July 17, 2 p.m. Jack Rasmus, *War at Home: The Corporate Offensive from Reagan to Bush*. The book brings together the various elements of the corporate offensive against workers and unions, and covers what has been happening to working class wages, jobs, trade, taxes, health care benefits, pensions and Social Security since 1980, with special emphasis on developments of the past four years under George W. Bush.



CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, 875 Howard Street between Fourth and Fifth streets, open daily 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Third Thursdays. Visitors can view museum and aquarium exhibits, listen to live music, and enjoy cocktails from 5-9 p.m. on the Third Thursday of every month. Admission is \$5. No-host bar. **Thursday, July 20**. For more information call 415-321-8000 or visit www.calacademy.org

Global Warming Demonstration explores the factors that affect global warming by sending virtual space probes to nearby planets in our solar system. Your discoveries could help affect the future of our planet! **Saturday, July 16**, 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Free with museum admission.

Coral Reef Caretaking. Watch as an Academy biologist suits up in SCUBA gear and dives into the Academy's two-story Coral Reef tank to care for the reef's inhabitants. During this 20 minute dive, the biologist will clean the tank windows and feed the anemones and fish. **Wednesdays, July 6, 13, 20 and 27**, 2:30 p.m.

Chocolate Festival. Enjoy a full day of celebrating the taste and culinary history of chocolate with demonstrations, tastings and activities for the whole family. Begin with tasting different chocolates from around the world, then sample molé tamales and take recipes home with you. Learn about the ecology of cacao and its organic, fair trade cultivation. You can even sing the praises of chocolate in a sing-along of Mexican songs about this tasty treat. **Saturday, July 30**, 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m.



EXPLORATORIUM, 3601 Lyon Street. Open Tuesday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. General admission, \$13; students/seniors, \$10; children 4-12, \$8; children 3 and under, free. Admission is free on the first Wednesday of the month. Most activities are included in the price of admission. Combined admission to the Exploratorium and the Tactile Dome is \$16. For more information call 415-561-1399 or visit www.exploratorium.edu. Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Independence Day, Monday July 4.



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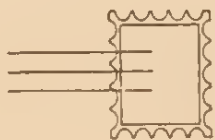
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Peggy Spillane's mask/
shadow box, on view
at her one-woman ret-
rospective at Creativity
Explored, 3245 16th
Street, July 21 through
September 1.

Creativity Explored: Face-to- Face with Peggy Spillane

61-year-old Peggy Spillane has been making art at San Francisco's Creativity Explored since 1984, almost as long as the non-profit visual art center for artists with developmental disabilities has been open. To honor Spillane's 20 years of creativity and her long collaboration with volunteer artist Ken Ferraris, Creativity Explored will present a rare, one-woman retrospective, "Face to Face." The exhibition opens with a reception on July 21 from 7 to 9 p.m. The gallery is regularly open Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday from 1 to 6 p.m. All artwork is available for purchase through the gallery, located at 3245 16th Street at Guerrero.

In her solo work, Spillane creates countless iterations of her favorite images — large, staring faces, abstract floral landscapes and godseye-like geometric patterns — all rendered in vivid colors with distinctive markings. Ferraris, a prop designer

and former display director with FAO Schwarz, has helped Spillane to expand her motifs into large-scale, three-dimensional works. Together, they have created a stunning series of shadowboxes and a large, hinged triptych which may prove to be their most ambitious work to date.

Creativity Explored is a place where art changes lives. All of its more than 120 member artists have a combination of developmental, psychiatric and/or physical disabilities. Some have lived lives of previous isolation or institutionalization. The artists come to Creativity Explored from countries around the globe, and speak a wide variety of languages; many members are unable to speak at all. At Creativity Explored, visual art is the common language, providing a means to share culture, experiences and feelings.

For more information, call 415-863-2108, or visit www.creativityexplored.org.

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ART AT THE DUMP



A 17 ft. Hummer made out of discarded Styrofoam, pieced together like a giant Lego set, is what the self-proclaimed "junk junkie" Andrew Junge has been working on out at the San Francisco dump. Art made from trash encourages us to be less wasteful — that is the aim of the S.F. Recycling & Disposal's Artist in Residence Program, which was initiated in 1990.

The life-sized Hummer and other works by Junge will be on display at a free exhibit and reception July 22 from 5 to 9 p.m., and again on Saturday, July 23, from 1-5 p.m. at S.F. Recycling & Disposal's art studio at 503 Tunnel Ave. The open studio exhibit is the culmination of a three-month residency.

"My show will be an examination of the debris of our consumerist society — what we value, what we throw away, what we waste, and how these are a direct reflection of who we are as a nation and how we treat our environment" says Junge. He hopes to inspire San Francisco residents to think about resource conservation and maybe to recycle more and consume less.

For more information call Deborah Munk, Art & Tour Program Coordinator, 415 330-1415.

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By Sandhya Dirks

Immortal Soul Music

Thick Description's new production is a one-man musical by the Bay Area performer Colman Domingo. *A Boy and his Soul* is the story of a 1970's Philadelphia childhood, a childhood spent during one of the great eras of soul music. Domingo developed the show at New York's 55 bar while he was working there as a bartender, drawing on memories of his childhood and his love of soul. Classic soul music is not just the soundtrack to Colman's past, it serves as a propelling force in his childhood, bringing the story of his family—loving, troubled, and music-loving—to life. Domingo is directed in this musical story by the Hill's very own auteur, Tony Kelly. To see *A Boy and His Soul* and, oh yeah, hear some great old soul, hie yourself to the Thick House, 1695 18th Street, July 1 through 31, Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$15-25 and can be purchased by calling 415-401-8081 or visiting www.thickdescription.org.

Boxcar Bertha

Bertha Thompson was the legendary depression era hobo, feminist, prostitute and social activist who rode the rails and lived the hard life, earning the moniker *Boxcar Bertha*. Christina Augello brings Bertha to life in this one woman play, accompanied by a musical backdrop by Jack "Applejack" Walroth. Travel back in time to Boxcar Bertha's alternate universe of boxcats, soapboxes and bordellos. At the Exit Theatre, 156 Eddy Street, July 15 through July 30, Fridays and Saturdays at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased by calling 415-673-3847.

Dance Dance Dance

Summerfest/dance presents the 14th Annual *West Wave Dance Festival* in the month of July. The festival includes 23 world premieres and more than 40 West Coast choreographers including Lisa Townsend, Brenda Way, Sonya Delwaide, John Kloss, and Liss Fain. This vibrant range of dance and choreography runs at San Francisco's Cowell and ODC Theaters from July 12 through 31. Tickets are \$16-20. For further information on showtimes and programs during the festival call 415-863-9834 or online at www.summerfestdance.org.

Bill Schwartz's Theater Extravaganza!

Why do we love the *San Francisco Theater Festival*? Number one, it's free. Number two, it is being produced by Potrero Hill resident Bill Schwartz. And number three, did I mention it was free? This one-day theater extravaganza brings together mime, drama, comedy, musical, improv, solo performers, hip-hop, jugglers, Chinese folk tales... the list goes on and on. With short performances, each coming in at under thirty minutes, on nine stages, indoor and outdoor, it is a one-day whirlwind through theatrical genres. Bay Area theater companies such as A.C.T., 42nd Street Moon, Magic Theater, Lorraine Hansberry, the Traveling Jewish Theatre, BATS Improv, and more than 50 other groups will participate in this celebration of local theater offerings. "This is the only theater festival that I know of that allows someone to sample a ton of theater performances for every age and taste in one place on one day and with free admission. And, they can chat with the performers and the producers of each theater company at tables we set up," said the event's producer Bill Schwartz. The Festival takes place Sunday, July 24 from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Yerba Buena Gardens complex at Mission and Third streets. Tickets? Not necessary, 'cause (say it with me now) it is FREE!

It's a Drag

With a plot that sounds straight out of Tennessee Williams and two drag queens at the helm, what could go wrong? *Hush Up Sweet Charlotte* is the story of a Charlotte Hollis, a spinster haunted by the murder of her lover years earlier. A plantation owner's daughter, Charlotte resides on the old Hollis estate, aged, crazed, and shunned by the locals who suspect her of her lover's death. Charlotte's disheveled maid, Velma, is her sole companion until cousin Miriam shows up to "help" with things. Family drama and bitching queens ensue. To see Plantation melodrama with ruined Southern maids in tow, see *Hush Up Sweet Charlotte* at the Lorraine Hansbury Theatre, 620 Sutter Street. The show runs through August 31, and performances are Wednesday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$27-32 and can be purchased at the Lorraine Hansbury Theatre Box Office in person, or by calling 415-474-8800.

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Jewish Film Festival Coming to the Castro Theatre

By Judy Baston

Reflecting a renewed interest in the witchhunts of the 1950s sparked by the restrictions of the Patriot Act, the San Francisco Jewish Film Festival — at the Castro Theatre July 21 through July 28 — will be marking its 25th anniversary with a special retrospective on “Jews and the Hollywood Blacklist.”

The connection is not a stretch. If one does the math, six of the “Hollywood Ten” indicted for refusing to name names before a the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HUAC) were Jewish, as were ten of the original ten called before the Committee.

The predominance of Jews as blacklist targets, while no coincidence, did have its ironic side. Many Jewish studio moguls restrained the portrayal of Jewish characters in their films, and even beyond this, large numbers of Jewish screenwriters were themselves acculturated and committed to universalism. (This, for example, led to efforts to minimize Jewish content in *The Diary of Anne Frank*, first in the stage version of the diary and then in the film made a few years later.)

But this did not stop members of HUAC, notably Rep. John Rankin, from trying to use the equation Jew=Russian=Communist as a key part of their campaign the Hollywood film community. And fearing the fallout from the espionage trials of Jews such as Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, Morton Sobell and Judith Coplon, many Jews chose not to confront directly the anti-semitic subtexts in the blacklist hearings.

The Film Festival retrospective presents revivals of four classic films by blacklisted screenwriters as well as a panel discussion focusing on the roots and ramifications of the blacklist among Jews working in the film community.

The panel discussion “Jewish? Left? Artist?” will be presented Sunday, July 24 between the 4 p.m. screening of *The Front* (1976) and the 7:30 p.m. screening of *The Locket* (1946). On the panel will be Walter Bernstein, blacklisted director of *The Front*; Norma Barzman, initial screenwriter of *The Locket*; and writer Dan Bessie, son of Alvah Bessie of the Hollywood Ten. The panel will be moderated by Paul Buhle, who has written a number of books on the blacklist. (The panel should start at roughly 5:30 p.m.)

In addition to *The Front*, Woody Allen’s bittersweet tale of a cashier who lends his name to the scripts of blacklisted writers, and *The Locket*, a psychological noir feature, other films in the retrospective include World War II ensemble drama *Hotel Berlin* (1945), scripted by Alvah Bessie (Monday, July 25, 8:45 p.m.), and *The Search* (1948), post-World War II tale of a Czech refugee mother and son trying to find each other, with additional dialogue by blacklistee Paul Jarrico (Tuesday, July 26, 1:30 p.m., free). A five-minute work-in-progress, *Gertrude Berg, America’s Molly Goldberg*, will be shown right before *The Front*. Gertrude Berg starred in *The Goldbergs*, on radio from 1929 to 1946, and on TV from 1949 into the early 1950s. (Philip Loeb, Uncle David on *The Goldbergs*, was a blacklist victim who committed suicide in 1955.)



Zero Mostel and Woody Allen in Allen’s *The Front* (1976), which will be shown at the Jewish Film Festival on July 24, 4 p.m., at the Castro Theatre.

Two other film festival entries, while not formally part of the blacklist retrospective, also concern the effects of the ‘50s witchhunts and individuals who were affected by it. *Isn’t This a Time* centers around the 2003 Carnegie Hall concert honoring producer Harold Leventhal and featuring Arlo Guthrie, Pete Seeger, Peter Paul and Mary, Theodore Bikel and the Weavers. The Weavers were blacklisted in the 1950s, but Leventhal’s persistence provided them with concert venues, and their concerts themselves became a form of resistance to the blacklist. And *Professional Revolutionary: The Life of Saul Wellman* is a compelling portrait of a Spanish Civil War veteran who was forced underground during the Smith Act trials of the 1950s.

The festival will also offer a number of films from and about Israel, the former Soviet Union and France.

Worth a special — and enthusiastic — mention is *Rashevski’s Tango*, which will be the closing night selection (Thursday, July 28, 8:30 p.m.). The film follows a French Jewish family, acculturated and intermarried, examining their Jewish identity after the funeral of their grandmother, a secular Jew who nonetheless chose to be buried in a Jewish cemetery.

Following its July 21-28 run at the Castro Theatre, 429 Castro Street, near 17th Street, the Festival will move to venues in Berkeley, Mountain View and San Rafael.

For more information about the films and the schedule, and to purchase advance tickets, go to www.sfjff.org

Longtime Potrero Hill resident and former Potrero View staffer Judy Baston is a genealogist and active with San Francisco’s Jewish Community Library.

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Biking the Hill

(Continued from Page 1)

Add being young to the bullet points above, though Bill Acheson would disagree. "I ride my single-speed with a 44/16 gear, and at my age, 61, can comfortably climb up to 20th Street, choosing reasonably pitched streets," he said. "The remaining climb up to 22nd is quite a challenge, although always fun. With fitness and knowledge, one can ride anywhere on Potrero Hill."

Link used to take the 19-Polk home late at night and says "that downhill from the top of De Haro was quite a thrill." (Note daredevil bullet point.)

Caroline Bird, a teacher who lives at 25th and Wisconsin, echoes the sentiment. "The thrill of the ride down the long hills is worth every bit of the extra exertion pushing the bike up. Fun destinations? Of course, the wiggly section of Vermont that we all know is crookeder than Lombard."

Another thrill-seeker is Kate Blumberg of 22nd and De Haro. "When I moved from Chicago, where I never had to deal with a hill higher than a highway overpass, to the top of Potrero, I was terrified of the ride down. Now that's what makes it work — I love going down! As long as I'm going out for a few hours, I can forget about the slog back up. I can't do things like load my bike up with 50 pounds of groceries like I did in Chicago. Thankfully, I can just walk to the store."

Bird also advocates becoming a pedestrian when necessary. "The best piece of advice that I got when I moved up here was to never be afraid to just get off and walk up a hill. As long as you are willing to push your bike for a block or two (or three), you can get anywhere."

She routs the *San Francisco Bike Map and Walking Guide*, a foldout map sold for a few dollars at bike shops and places like Rainbow Grocery that shows the grade of every street in San Francisco through a color-coded system. Faint topographical lines note the height, and trace its shifts. Potrero is a bit over 200 feet high, about the same as neighboring Bernal Heights but less of a cone shape.

"Potrero Hill is actually a complex network of ridges and valleys," Bird said. "Without an awareness of how the Hill works, you are in for some extra steep climbs. It was gridded for streets with little thought to the topography of the land. Don't use the driver's mentality of just taking any streets to get from point A to point B. Learn the ups and downs of the Hill."

Bird cites Southern Heights as one street that does follow the contour of the hill and suggests using it whenever possible.



(However, it's only two blocks long.)

Brian Cavagnolo weighs the importance of traffic versus hills when selecting his routes and comes down on the side of hills. "If you consider the view when choosing between hill and traffic, you tend to choose hill," he said. "On Potrero, the rewards are ample. At the top of the Hill, you will look around, forget any pain and sweat, and remember why you chose to live here in San Francisco."

Another fan of scenery as motivation is Garlynn Woodson, a regional planner for the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, who lives at 25th and San Bruno. "Sometimes, when I'm biking home from SOMA, I take the ped/bike bridge across the freeway at Mariposa and continue up the hill, past McKinley Square, and then down Vermont, the *real* 'curviest street in the world,' and then right on 23rd, across the overpass, and down to my house," she said. "Why? For the view, the atmosphere, and because I can. I live in San Francisco, one of the most beautiful cities in the world, and I'm able to traverse such a spectacular bit of the city on this trek."

Stephen Moulton bikes most days from the top of Kansas Street to work in the Embarcadero Center and back up the Hill home. Like Goetz, he starts up Kansas, switches to Vermont at Mariposa, and returns to Kansas at 19th.

"The Hill is really a beautiful place to cycle around, and the hills are quite manageable once you get over the initial shock," he said.

Some respondents don't actually live on the Hill. Joe Barefoot works on De Haro near Mariposa and suggests that cyclists ride out just for the fun of it and — surprise! — the views.

"The Potrero Hill Recreation Center at the corner of Arkansas and Madera has some great views of the Bay," he said. "It makes a good destination point for cyclers who want to explore lesser known parts of the city or just residents who never go to the top of the Hill."

He also offers advice for navigating the flatland parts of the 'hood. "If you want to get to downtown, the best way is to go east on 16th until you hit Third, then bike north past the ballpark. If you're headed for the Financial District, North Beach, Wharf, etc., take a right on King, which turns into Embarcadero, and follow it until you get close to where you're going. Both 16th and Embarcadero have bike lanes, and Third has pretty light traffic except when there's a baseball game."

Scott Durcanin, who lives at Pennsylvania and 20th, has a different recommendation. "Indiana is the best route for getting downtown or SBC Park from the southeast side of the hill," he said. "It offers a pleasant ride down to Mariposa, which crosses over Third to meet up with the bike lane on Terry Francois Blvd. Thrill seekers can use Third, but don't forget your helmet! It would be nice to see a bike path from Indiana and Mariposa pass through the industrial lot to connect up with the Fourth Street bridge."

Abby Johnston, managing editor of

The Potrero View, encompasses all our original bullet points in her daily trek from the other side of Potrero Avenue to the Hill. "I walk it up the Vermont curlycue. I go into kind of a zone during the slog up, and while huffing and puffing, I've actually resolved a number of dilemmas and have arrived at the top refreshed. At the end of the day, I have a glorious ride home. WHEEE! From the top of the curlycue to the fire station on 25th — no pedaling, next to no braking."

Thanks to the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition for helping me contact these riders.



Fran Taylor is a medical editor and a member of Walk San Francisco and the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition. A lazy bottom-feeder, she mostly pedals around the flat edges of Potrero Hill. She is shown below in training on the flatlands of Hyattsville, Maryland, 1956.

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Edward Hatter, Executive Director

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DPW Services	28-CLEAN
Fraud Detail	553-1521
Garbage Pickup - Oversized items	330-1300
Graffiti Hot-Line	241-WASH
Mobile Assistance Patrol	431-7400
Mobile Crisis Team (Mental Health)	255-3610
Muni Information	673-6864
Parking Enforcement	923-6164
Police - Bayview Station	671-2300
Potholes	695-2100
Potrero Library	355-2822
Rent Stabilization Board	252-4600
Street Construction Complaints	554-7222
Street Lighting Problems	554-0730
Supervisor Sophie Maxwell	554-7670
Tree Problems	695-2162
Towed Cars	553-1235

World's Mayors Sign Environmental Accords

By Daniel Porras
Neighborhood Environmental Newswire

In an elaborate ceremony in the rotunda of San Francisco City Hall, more than 50 mayors from cities around the world signed the Urban Environmental Accords, proclaiming a "new chapter in the history of global cooperation." The ceremony, which marked the close of United Nations World Environment Day, included speeches by Mayor Gavin Newsom, U.S. Representative Nancy Pelosi, and SF Environment Director Jared Blumenfeld.

The newly-drafted Accords, negotiated and signed by mayors of such cities as London, Delhi, Istanbul, Moscow, and Copenhagen, consist of 21 specific actions to create cleaner and more sustainable cities. Action One, for example, is to "adopt and implement a policy to increase the use of renewable energy to meet ten percent of the city's peak electric load within seven years." The actions are grouped into the categories of energy, water, waste reduction, urban design, urban nature, and environmental health. The signatory cities commit to undertaking three actions per year, with the ultimate goal of implementing all 21 accords by World Environment Day 2012.

"It's a great symbolic act," said the Deputy Mayor of Vancouver, David Cadman. "You have fifty cities that are coming together here, we're going to set goals and try to pursue them." Cadman said that many mayors who attended the five-day environmental conference are more serious about sustainability than their own national governments. "We know that 50 percent of the world's population now live in cities and that we consume 75 percent of the natural resources. [Cities] have to turn it around if this planet is going to survive — pure and simple."

While more than 70 mayors attended World Environment Day (WED), which consisted of hundreds of community events around the Bay Area, only 50 mayors signed the accords on the final day of the conference. Officials said this was because some of the mayors — or their representatives — needed to get permission from colleagues back home before signing. Likewise, some mayors from developing countries expressed concerns that the accord's goals are too difficult for less-

wealthy cities to achieve. "Handling environmental issues requires financial power," said the vice mayor of Istanbul, Idris Güllüce, through a translator. "It might be easier for some cities in North America, but in other cities, solving environmental problems will take a long time."

San Francisco is the first North American city to host WED, a 32-year-old event held annually in a different city. "It's been a great success," SF Environment Director Jared Blumenfeld told Neighborhood Newswire after the signing ceremony. "It's now up to the non-profit communities to hold their governments accountable [to the accords]." However, while WED 2005 was seen by many as a boon for San Francisco's standing in the international environmental community, not everyone shared Blumenfeld's enthusiasm for the event.

"World Environment Day was brought to you by corporate polluters," shouted a protestor as delegates and guests were ushered out of City Hall to witness WED's highly orchestrated climax in the plaza, a live 50-voice gospel performance of a song entitled *United Nations, Together We Can*. In addition to Pacific Gas & Electric Company, WED's sponsors included the Coca-Cola Company, FedEx, the Gap, Starbucks, and Toyota; as well as dozens of media, non-profit and governmental groups. While many activist and community groups participated in WED 2005, some were skeptical of the non-binding accords drawn up by the mayors.

"I think that the accords don't speak powerfully enough to the needs of the poor and people of color," said Van Jones, Executive Director of the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights in San Francisco. To bring attention to the plight of the urban poor during the conference the Ella Baker Center launched the 'social equity track' which calls for, among other things, the inclusion of low-income minorities in the Bay Area's emerging green technology sector. "[The accords] are just pieces of paper," said Jones. "Now we need to rally people at the grassroots level in all of these cities to get these mayors to keep their promises."

To learn more about the Urban Environmental Accords, visit www.wed2005.org/3.1.php; the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, www.ellabakercenter.org/index.html; and the United Nations Environment Program, www.unep.org



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Redevelopment Vision Plan for Pier 70 Unveiled

By Jessica Mikels

"Pier 70 will be a diverse working waterfront district that embraces its distinctive arts and industrial character, connects to the local communities, reveals its maritime history and activates the water's edge.

"This will be achieved with a flexible framework that facilitates the discovery of this unique experiential landscape."

—VISION STATEMENT, EDAW PIER 70
INTERN PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

Imagination and elbow grease were required in equal parts by the 21 graduate students who recently endeavored to re-envision Pier 70 as part of an intern program hosred by EDAW, a global, land-based consultancy.

The task at hand for the students, hand-picked from universities around the world, was to prepare a vision plan for historic Pier 70 that would inform a future planning and design process, taking the many opportunities and constraints of the site into consideration.

Located at the eastern foot of Potrero Hill, Pier 70's 37 acres, have been neglected for decades for lack of resources; but offer tremendous promise. With adjacent Mission Bay construction and the new Third Street Light Rail planned to link the site to downtown in early 2006, the site provided great inspiration for the development of a vision of Pier 70 as a thriving waterfront district.

The action-packed two weeks kicked-off June 6 with complete emersion into Pier 70; over the following two weeks, srudents visired the site by boat, kayak, bike, bus and foot in order to gain the range of experiences that the site might offer in the future. Their grueling daily schedule began at 8 a.m. and often stretched lare into the nightr.

A number of local experts, community groups and citizens also provided valuable information to students, sharing an understanding of the site's historic resources, environmental constraints, legal and programmatic implications of the public trust doctrine, and the operations of the existing Dry Dock and irs potential expansion. Groups including Central Waterfront Advisory Group, the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, the Potrero Hill Boosters, the Dogpatch Neighborhood Association, San Francisco Bicycle Coalition, Bay Access, Blue Greenway and Neighborhood Parks Council shared their views and hopes for Pier 70 at public events and evaluated the work as the interns developed the vision plan.

The students' visioning process was roored in key words that became the foundation of the plan. These words described the character of the site they wanted to preserve, such as *historic, working, voyeuristic, discovery*; the activities that they thought the vision should promote, such as *working, education, maritime, community, water, leisure*; and the characteristics of the built environment of Pier 70 should possess, like *vistas, public access, flexibility, juxtaposition of scale*.

Based on the vision, the interns developed a concept and a framework which evolved in multiple preliminary scenarios. They refined the scenarios in a design concept for the Redevelopment Vision Plan for Pier 70, which they presented to a standing room only audience on June 17 at the Ferry Building that consisted of stakeholders from SPUR, the Mayor's Office of Workforce and Economic Development, the San Francisco Planning Department, the Central Waterfront Advisory Group, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, the San Francisco Dry Dock, the Neighbor-



A comprehensive new Vision Plan for Pier 70, prepared by 21 hand-picked graduate students from around the world, was unveiled before city officials on June 17 at the Ferry Building. The plan embraces Pier 70's unique character and suggests expanding maritime operations, creating distinctive open spaces, and bringing in vibrant new waterfront attractions to the historic site.

Photo Courtesy of EDAW

hood Parks Council, the Potrero Hill Boosters, and the Dogpatch Neighborhood Association, hosted by the Port of San Francisco.

Each of the 21 students presented a piece of the project, beginning with community input, and an extensive site analysis that included environmental factors, regional and local transportation connections, land use context, and historical resources. The interns then presented the vision statement describing how the vision plan would reveal the historic industrial character of the site, activate its waterfront, and connect water and land with their surroundings via a conceptual "zipper." The zipper connects past with

present, water with land, work with leisure and built space with open space.

The interns then introduced the illustrated vision plan and walked the audience through the different areas of the project. The presentation highlighted the location of the Bay Trail as it will traverse the site north to south through a new park proposed on the historic Slip #4 area, a revitalized 20th Street with renovated buildings with new uses, historic courtyards transformed into parks and plazas, a proposed new marina south of the Dry Dock, and a festive event plaza where the srtructure of Building #6 would be ex-

(Continued on Page 17)

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Maxwell, Department Reps Field Questions at Town Hall Meeting

By Joe Boss

Our District 10 Supervisor, Sophie Maxwell, held her annual Potrero Hill Town Hall Meeting on June 4 at Thick Description's theater on 18th near Arkansas Street. Sophie hosts these meetings throughout her District, and representatives from several city departments fielded questions. They included the Police, City Attorney, Recreation and Parks, Dept of Public Works, the SF Public Utilities Commission, and the Planning Department.

Sophie reported the progress with the shutting down of the Potrero and Hunters Point Power Plants. When the PG&E transmission line upgrades are completed and the City SFPUC successfully installs three 50 Megawatt gas fired turbines just south of the existing Potrero Plant, both of those old polluting plants should be shut down in 2007.

Sophie reported her success in securing Prop 63, mental health money, for working with Youth Guidance Centers to add interim support and diagnostics for those waiting for placement in mental health facilities.

Greg Asay, Sophie's legislative aide, gave an update on Potrero Hill/Showplace Square Interim zoning controls. He described the current Industrial Zoning as creating a wild west environment and how controls will allow the City Planning Department to complete its current Eastern Neighborhoods planning effort.

"Planning not Banning" has been Sophie's slogan for the past 5 years, and now seems to be achievable with the area plan and Draft Environment Impact Report due out in the end of the year after more public input.

Sophie reported that FINALLY the bids for the Esprit Park's irrigation system are due in soon, after a three-year delay. The work will actually be completed by the fall.

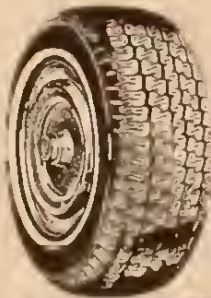
The pubic (60 residents attended) had the opportunity to ask the department representatives questions and voice concerns. Sam Murray, SFPUC, fielded comments addressing water pressure problems on the Hill (the capital improvements are expected to eliminate that problem), and burned out or dim street lights (both SFPUC and PG&E). Murray promised to find the responsible organization to remedy the problem.

Residents of Potrero Court asked what they could do to stop auto boosting and thefts from within their garage. Potrero Hill beat cop Officer Ernst suggested that residents be sure that the garage doors close before they drive away. Most thefts occur when the criminals sneak in before the gates close. The number for San Francisco SAFE was given out: 415-673-SAFE for those interested in a Neighborhood Watch.

The DPW explained that the city has a contract with Sunset Scavengers to empty trash containers and that if they are not being emptied on a regular basis, to call DPW, who will dispatch their own team and make sure Sunset is providing the proper service.

Finally, the subject of the dark hole on 17th and Rhode Island (S&C Ford) was brought up. Greg Asay reported that the mixed-use project by the A.F. Evans Company had been purchased by a new developer and that construction of the residential units and a 35,000 square foot Whole Foods should be started within a few months.

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Cedar waxwings, photographed this spring at the pedestrian overpass at Utah and Mariposa, waiting for robins to let them have a go at a nearby pyracantha bush full of berries. *Abigail Johnston photo*

Life Near the Fast Lane

By Erica Gles

Neighborhood Environmental Newswire

Stalled in bumper-to-bumper traffic on Highway 101 between the Vermont and Cesar Chavez exits, a driver's eye may be drawn to the few tracts of greenery on San Francisco's freeway corridor. But while the plants provide visual relief from the concrete jungle, this habitat close to San Francisco General Hospital seems fairly inhospitable to life.

However, just as 101 links us to where we want to go, these border lands, owned and managed by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), serve as a sort of freeway for critters, providing birds, bugs, and mammals with a "right-of-way" to a patchwork of nearby green spaces: pocket parks, hillsides, community gardens, and backyards.

"Habitat associated with even the Caltrans corridor is a good potential part of the overall urban natural landscape that we want to protect and restore and steward," said Peter Brastow, director of Nature in the City, a nonprofit whose mission is to connect people with urban nature.

When a city road was widened into Highway 101 in 1954, Caltrans planted the land with Algerian ivy, eucalyptus and pine trees, and melaleuca bushes, according to Jack Knudson, a Caltrans landscape supervisor. Former Caltrans area superintendent Larty Stringer added that the area

also contains bottlebrush and plum trees, and invasive weeds like sweet anise.

These inhospitable nonnative plants, combined with the generally degraded local environment, make for poor habitat. "Right near the freeway there's altered air flow, excess nitrogen plume from exhaust, altered drainage," said Barbara Deutsch, an amateur lepidopterist who lives on nearby Bernal Hill and maintains a pesticide-free garden with butterfly-friendly plants.

Yet despite the challenging conditions, a surprising array of beings use the Caltrans land and the green areas abutting it. Edward Hatter, executive director of the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, a community center five blocks from the freeway, has spotted wildlife in the area. "...we have raccoons, quail, more pigeons than we can stand, field mice, we have black birds - ravens - and we've spotted a few hawks flying through..."

Other birds have also been documented. Jeanne Darrah, parent to two children at Buena Vista Alternative Elementary School on 25th Street, recruited an ornithologist to identify area birds with the kids. They promoted the pigeons to "rock doves," and spotted Hatter's ravens, red-tailed hawks, white crown sparrows, black phoebes, yellow-rumped warblers, song sparrows, robins, Anna's hummingbirds, starlings, bluejays, mourning doves, house finches, chickadees, western gulls,

and American goldfinches.

The nearby land also hosts coast live oak, a native that's perhaps spread through the droppings of intrepid bluejays; kestrels, a bird of prey; anise swallowtail, Virginia lady, and an as-yet-unnamed species of harvestmen, a native arachnid (spider) found under the area's characteristic serpentine rock.

The Caltrans land itself is mostly ill-suited to all but the hardiest of species, particularly due to the heavy ivy coverage.

"Ivy is one of the most counterproductive treatments of the ground because it's evergreen and it completely shades the ground. There is no natural community that has that condition. It primarily fosters snails and rats," said Deutsch.

Peter Berg, director of Planet Drum, an organization that advocates a bioregional basis for urban sustainability, agrees, calling ivy a "form of green pavement" and says its presence eliminates the

healthy benefits of a native landscape.

Caltrans spokesperson Jeff Weiss doesn't foresee the Hospital Curve ivy being replaced with native plants any time soon. "The ivy is thriving in that location, and it's much cheaper to keep those plants than to re-landscape that area," he said. "Given the fiscal situation the state finds itself in, if it works, don't fix it."

"There's always a difference between price and cost," Berg countered. "They're talking about price. The social cost of having exotic vegetation there is that it degrades the urban environment, and it deprives the public of contact with natural elements of native species, which are known to be beneficial for consciousness, recreation, and mental well-being..."

While Weiss pointed to funding priorities like seismic retrofitting of the San Francisco Bay Bridge, he didn't rule out the possibility of re-landscaping Hospital Curve altogether.

"Caltrans is moving toward more local control of projects. Caltrans used to receive 75 percent of the state transportation budget for projects. But in the late '90s the funding scheme was inverted, where the local cities and counties controlled 75 percent of the funding and Caltrans controlled 25 percent. That's not to say we're not involved, but the city decides where money is allocated. So if someone in San Francisco wanted to re-landscape an area, it's more likely the project would be initiated by the city and county of San Francisco than by Caltrans."

But while Nature in the City's Brastow is intrigued to hear about the funding restructuring, he isn't willing to let Caltrans just pass the buck onto the community.

"We want anybody who owns public land to take as good care of it as they can, and manage for natural resources and habitat value," said Brastow. "And we're not just talking about the National Park Service and the Rec & Park Department, who, in general, are doing a great job at managing their land for natural resources and habitat value. But also DPW and Caltrans."

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Summer Safety for Children Depends on Parents Being Effective Role Models

As the weather warms and families head outdoors for summertime fun, research shows it's critical that parents proactively role model safe behavior in order to protect their children from potentially serious injury.

Kids learn by example. Telling children what to do is not enough. Parents must also practice good safety behavior themselves to teach kids how to be safe. Research from the National SAFE KIDS Campaign and Johnson & Johnson found that while 98 percent of parents agree it is important they are role models for safe behavior for their children, the percentage of parents who report actually practicing safe behavior is significantly lower.

By practicing safe behavior themselves in such outdoor activities as biking, playing around water, and crossing busy intersections, parents may be able to reduce some of the 2.7 million accidental injuries to children that result in emergency room visits during the summer months.

Head injury is the leading cause of death in bicycle accidents, yet only 40 percent of children say they wear a helmet while biking — leaving six out of every 10 children unprotected and risk for a traumatic brain injury or worse, even from a low-speed fall or a quick ride to a friend's house down the street. Only 25 percent of parents always wear a bike helmet themselves which, according to SAFE KIDS, is a big reason why so few children wear one themselves.

SAFE KIDS advises parents to wear a helmet. Your children will learn by your example, and be safer on bikes, scooters, skateboards, rollerblades, and other wheeled toys.

Wear a life jacket in the water. Drownings are the second leading cause of unintentional injury-related death for children 14 and under, but not enough parents and

children are practicing safe behavior around water by wearing a life jacket. An estimated 85 percent of boat-related drownings can be prevented with the use of a properly fitting life vest. SAFE KIDS advises parents to model safe behavior by wearing life vests while boating, and to actively supervise their children around water.

Children are often outside walking during the warm summer months. Research shows that one in four children fail to cross at an intersection on a busy street. Parents must talk to their children about using crosswalks and looking both ways for oncoming traffic before crossing. Plus, parents must always do it themselves so their children see them literally "walking the walk." This is particularly important for children under the age of nine who are not developmentally capable of judging critical road safety factors such as speed.

"Summertime is a break from school, but children learn year-round by observing their parents," explains Dr. Martin Eichelberger, president and CEO of the National SAFE KIDS Campaign and director of Emergency Trauma Services at Children's National Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

The National SAFE KIDS campaign is the first and only national nonprofit organization dedicated solely to the prevention of unintentional childhood injury — the number one killer of children ages 14 and under. More than 300 state and local SAFE KIDS coalitions in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico comprise the Campaign.

Information about summertime safety, as well as a copy of the SAFE KIDS/ Johnson & Johnson report, *Follow the Leader: A National Study of Safety Role Modeling Among Parents and Children*, can be found at www.safekids.org.

Dogpatch Neighborhood Association Wins Award

Dogpatch Neighborhood Association received the prestigious President's Award from the California Preservation Foundation, at the foundations annual conference in Riverside, California. CPF is California's only statewide non-profit historic preservation education, advocacy and membership organization. Dogpatch was recognized by lone R. Stiegler, AIA, the foundation's President, for "Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Historic Preservation" at the May, 13 ceremony.

Susan Eslick, President of stated, "Award is the result of an incredible partnership with the Community, the Board of Supervisors, the Planning Department, SF Architectural Heritage, SF Beautiful, and the perilous work of Christopher Verplanck, of Page and Turnbull. Creating the Dogpatch Historic District has been well worth the efforts."

Free 2-hour walking tours of the Dogpatch neighborhood will take place on the first Sunday of each month through October at 11 a.m., beginning and ending at the corner of 18th and Tennessee streets. The walking tours are hosted by Sina and Natalie Wisniewski for City Guides, a walking tour project of the San Francisco Public Library.

For more information about the tours, visit www.sfcityguides.org.

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The members of EDAW's intern program to design a Vision Plan for Pier 70 — all students specializing in landscape architecture, planning, resource management, and economic development — are shown gathered before an aging waterfront warehouse during a fact-finding tour of the site.
Photo Courtesy of EDAW

New Vision Plan for Pier 70

(Continued from Page 13)

posed, allowing direct views of the Bay from the 20th Street corridor. The presentation concluded with a short movie that the students created to convey how the vision plan was inspired by and built on the unique historic and industrial character of Pier 70.

"Pier 70 enthralled us — it is definitely one of San Francisco's hidden gems. I hope that our efforts help to spark redevelopment that would make the site more visible and usable for the surrounding communities," commented EDAW intern Mara Baum.

This year's group marked the 25th anniversary for the EDAW Intern Program; the desire to bring the program home to EDAW's San Francisco headquarters prompted investigations into the Pier 70 site. Past projects have taken participants to locations around the globe to work in real-world project settings from Petra, Jordan to Miami, Florida to last year's program site held in the Bahamas.

"Despite its tremendous potential and historic relevance, Pier 70 has lacked attention and resources for years," said John Borg, long-time co-chair of the Port's Pier 70 Community Advisory Group, who was involved in the project. "The EDAW interns' work was highly polished, exciting and nuanced. It brought a fresh, creative and comprehensive perspective to this challenging site. I am hopeful their work will stimulate new interest and unite the private sector, government officials, and the community in a way that hadn't been done before."

Looking forward, the Port of San Francisco is currently awaiting the students' final report and is carefully evaluating the Vision Plan. Regarded as a success by all groups involved, the Vision Plan will truly prove itself a success as it progresses en-route to development into a full Master Plan.

For more information on the EDAW Intern Program, please visit www.edaw.com or call Alma DuSolier at 415-433-1484.



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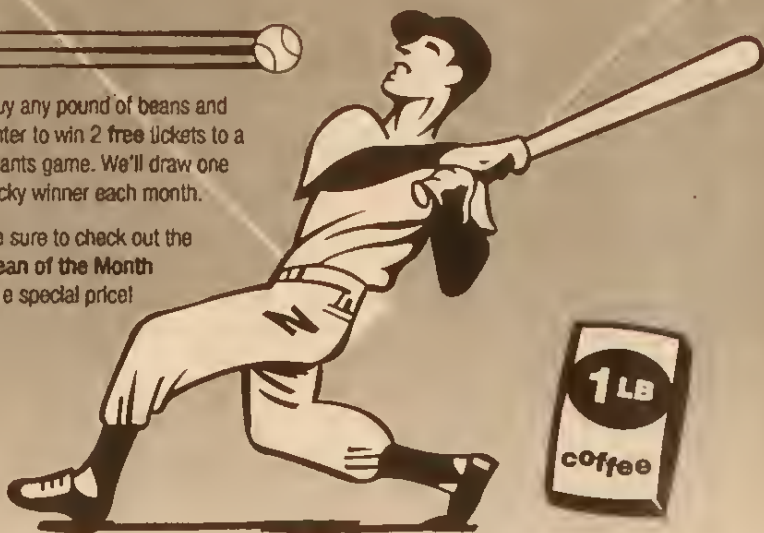
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It's *STILL* the Revenue, Governor

(Continued from Page 3)

Governor will tout that he has "saved" social services. The truth is that the largest increase in revenues is a result of tax amnesty legislation brought to the table by the Democrats last year—and largely opposed by Republicans—which brought in roughly \$5 billion in extra revenue.

If the Vehicle License Fee (VLF) had not been suspended by the Legislature in 1998 and rescinded by Governor Schwarzenegger on his first day in office, the state would have benefited by approximately \$4 billion each year thereafter, totaling nearly \$30 billion to date. Every year that we don't have the VLF restored now means \$5 billion in lost revenue that could be used to help close the budget gap. The cut in the VLF saved the average car owner about \$200 annually, an amount she/he paid every year since 1948.

To help San Francisco deal with the loss of state and federal funds, I have authored Assembly Bill 799, the San Francisco VLF Option. AB 799 will bring local control directly into the hands of voters by allowing San Franciscans the option to re-instate a local vehicle license fee via the ballot. The revenues would

provide up to \$70 million for San Francisco's health, transit, public safety and social service needs.

Another possible solution for the Governor's budget dilemma is to secure more federal dollars. Unfortunately, there is virtually no new federal money in the governor's budget. Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren, D-San Jose, has identified tens of billions of federal dollars owed to California. In February, she and the California Democratic congressional delegation tried to get the governor to live up to his "Collectinator" rhetoric by working with him and Republicans in a bipartisan manner in Washington, DC. However, as we have seen, the "Collectinator" does not know how to deliver on his promise to collect for our state. If Governor Schwarzenegger were to collect just 10 percent of federal funds due Californians, we would have \$5 billion of new revenue. Where is the federal money, Governor?

The Governor has now called for an \$80 million special election opposed by nearly two thirds of Californians recently polled, to benefit his corporate, special interest agenda. Instead of working with the Legislature in good faith to address the complex issues facing the state, he has opted to spend his time dining with out-of-state corporate interests and raising campaign dollars to fight teachers, firefighters and nurses in an ill conceived special election. The \$80 million price tag could provide a UC education to more than 9,000 eligible students, pay the salaries of more than 1,300 classroom

teachers, provide healthcare for 65,000 uninsured, poor children or in-home support services for over 9,000 frail, elderly or disabled Californians.

Governor Schwarzenegger just doesn't get it. The special election is a waste of resources. Our fiscal health is in jeopardy without strong, consistent revenue streams. And his word is no longer trusted. It's time the governor started working for the people rather than for his corporate special interests.

To contact Assemblyman Mark Leno's San Francisco District Office call 415-557-3013 or e-mail him directly at Assemblymember.Leno@asm.ca.gov



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Environmental Justice

(Continued from Page 3)

origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of laws, policies, regulations, and programs. Environmental justice relates to public infrastructure and services, public health, land use, housing, transportation, and environmental quality.

This legislation would commit the city to ensuring that all San Franciscans live in a clean, healthy and sustainable environment. No group of people should bear disproportionate burden of adverse human health or negative environmental impacts as a result of industrial, commercial, or municipal operations or the city's laws, policies or programs.

In addition, the legislation will require specific city departments, including Planning, Muni, and the Public Utilities Commission, to identify and address disproportionately high adverse human health or environmental effects of their programs, policies and activities on com-

munities of color and low-income communities.

Since I was first elected in 2000, we have made great strides to address several of the most pressing environmental justice issues in our district, including securing hundreds of millions of dollars of federal funding for the Hunters Point Shipyard clean-up and creating a real plan to close both the Potrero and Hunters Point power plants. Yet it is critical that we create an official policy statement and that we spread the environmental justice ethic to key city departments. That's what this legislation will accomplish.

Together we can create a more just San Francisco and a healthier, more vibrant District 10. Let's bring environmental justice to our city.

I will introduce this legislation at the Board of Supervisors in the coming weeks. For more information, please contact Greg Asay in my office at 554-7672 or greg.asay@sfgov.org.

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Crime

(Continued from Page 1)

lem appear to be worse than it has been in the past. Still, he says, these crimes are cause for alarm and it's good that citizens are informed and debating the issue.

"If you compare statistics across the board to ten or 12 years ago, crime is down significantly," he said. "But that doesn't give you comfort if you're a victim today. It's still a difficult problem. We catch criminals every day who should be put away in state prison. Unfortunately, the system does not always work. As soon as they're booked, many of them head right out the back door of the Hall of Justice. We're as frustrated as everyone else."

Captain Bruce strongly believes in the power of community awareness. When he took over a few years back, he initiated a new policy to send out a daily police report to any interested citizen via e-mail. The report details all serious offenses within the district, which includes the high-crime Bayview-Hunters Point community. Shortly before the View went to press, he met with members of the Potrero Hill Parents Association to talk about what they can do to protect themselves.

"Like other parts of town, Potrero Hill has always had its share of crime. But a lot of it was never really talked about or reported as openly as it is today," he said. "In a way, ignorance (about crime) was bliss. It may make some folks uncomfortable, but I think it helps to know exactly what's going on."

Long known as a progressive and diverse community, Potrero Hill is growing increasingly affluent. The shifting demographics and the varied socioeconomic mix — combined with a malfunctioning criminal justice system, lack of parental guidance, and anger and restlessness among youth — creates more opportunity

for crime, and makes dealing with it here all the more politically and culturally sensitive.

Capt. Bruce notes, for example, that in each of the recent local purse snatchings and assault cases, the assailants were all young men who fit a similar "boilerplate" description. Suspects often have connections with the Potrero Hill and Sunnydale public-housing communities. Victims are preyed upon near these developments. It's a touchy subject, he says, but it's borne out by statistics.

"Bottom line is you should never feel guilty about calling the police," he said. "If you see something that seems wrong, if anyone is behaving in a way that causes you alarm, no matter who they are or what they look like, you should report it. Most of the time your intuition is correct. And at least we can get down there and check it out."

The Bayview police district is one of the largest and busiest in the City, and law enforcement resources simply cannot blanket Potrero Hill twenty-four hours a day. Citizen involvement is necessary to combat crime.

So get to know your neighbors, and look out for them. Participate in neighborhood watch programs and community meetings. Program the number for San Francisco police dispatch — 415-553-0123 — onto your home and cellular phones. Don't try to be a hero, but be aware, report crime or suspicious activity immediately, and make detailed mental notes to help identify suspects.

The truth of the matter is, if we don't all open our eyes and work together, we won't be able to do nothin' to stop crime.

John Borg lives and works in Dogpatch. To subscribe to Captain Rick Bruce's daily Bayview District Police Report e-mail, contact him at Rick_Bruce@ci.sf.ca.us or 415-671-2300.

FREE CONCERT IN DOLORES PARK



On Sunday, July 24, the San Francisco Symphony will perform a free concert in Dolores Park at 2 p.m. Adults and children of all ages are invited to attend this free concert. Resident Conductor Edwin Outwater will lead the SFS in this beloved San Francisco summertime tradition. The program includes excerpts from Bizet's *Carmen*, as well as music by de Falla, Rimsky-Korsakov and Ginastera. The event will feature food and beverage vendors, face painting and jugglers for the kids, and an opportunity to meet orchestra members demonstrating their instruments before the concert.

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